THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) Discretionary quota of Government and allotments made thereunder were challenged in the Supreme Court through a Writ Petition No. 886 of 1993 on the ground that such allotments were being made in an arbitrary manner. The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its order dated 31.3.1995 approved the following guidelines for allotment of dealerships/distributorships under discretionary quota on compassionate grounds:

(i) Dependent of a person who has made Supreme sacrifice for the nation, but has not been properly rehabilitated so far.

(ii) Member for a family which has been a victim of unforeseen circumstances, like terrorist attack, earthquake, floods, etc.

(iii) Physically handicapped person.

(iv) Defence-para-military/police per sonnel/other Central/State Government employees, who are permanently disabled on duty.

(v) Immediate next of kin, namely widow, parents, children of those who lost their lives in abnormal circumstances.

(vi) Eminent professionals like outstanding sportsmen, musicians, literateurs, etc. and women of high achievement, in distress.

(vii) Individual cases of extreme hardship, which in the "opinion of Government are extremely compassionate and deserve sympathetic consideration in view of the special circumstances of the case at the given time.

(viii) The number of discretionary allotments should not ordinarily exceed 10% of the average annual marketing plan, of which allotments of retail outlets for petroleum products should not normally exceed 5%.

The discretionary allotments will be made to a candidate subject to the following general conditions:

(1) He/She should be a citizen of India.

(2) He/She or any of his/her following close relatives (including step relatives) should not already hold a dealership of petroleum products of any oil company:

(i) Spouse, (ii) Father/Mother, (iii) Brother, (iv) SonOaughter-in-law.

A Writ Petition No. 261995 has been filed in the Supreme Court of India by Common Cause against Union of India, alleging among other things, irregularities in the allotment of dealerships-distributorships under the discretionary powers of the Government. The case has been heard in detail by the Hon. Supreme Court of India in various hearings; however, no orders have been passed so far by the Hon. Court in this regard.

वन्य प्राणियों के कारण गांववासियों को जान-माल का खतरा

47. श्री महेश्वर सिंह: क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार इस बात से अवगत है कि जब से वन्य प्राणियों के शिकार पर सरकार द्वारा रोक लगाई गई है तब से कुछ राज्यों में वन्य प्राणियों विशेषकर भालू बाघ और चीतों की संख्या में वृद्धि होने से वहां के गांववासियों को अपने जान-माल की रक्षा का जोखिम उठाना पड़ रहा है;

(ख) क्या हिमाचल प्रदेश सरकार ने राज्य के कुछ भागों में बाघों/चीतों की संख्या बढ़ने तथा उनके आदमखोर होने के कारण उन्हें मारने के लिए केन्द्रीय सरकार से अनुमति चाही थी; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है और उस पर सरकार द्वारा क्या कार्यवाही की गई है?

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (कैप्टन जयनारायण प्रसाद निषाद): (क) यह सच नहीं है कि वन्य पशुओं के शिकार पर प्रतिबंध लगाने से कुछ वन्य पशुओं की आबादी में वृद्धि होने के कारण ग्रामिणों के जीवन को खतरा बढ़ गया है। वन्यजीव (सुरक्षा) अधिनियम, 1972 में व्यवस्था है कि राज्य सरकारों के मुख्य वन्यजीव वार्डन किसी ऐसे वन्य पशु के शिकार का आदेश दे सकते हैं जिससे मानव जीवन को खतरा हो। इसके अलावा, भारत के बाघों की आबादी में वृद्धि नहीं हुई और भारत में अब चीता दिखाई नहीं देता है।

(ख) और (ग) जी, नहीं बाघ और चीता हिमाचल प्रदेश में नहीं पाए जाते हैं। तथापि, राज्य सरकार ने अपने राज्य में तेन्दुए के आतंक के बारे में कई बार हमें लिखा है जिसमें मनुष्य को मारे जाने का भी उल्लेख किया गया है। राज्य सरकार को वन्यजीव (संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1972 की धारा 11(क) (i) का सहारा लेने और ग्रामीणों के जीवन की रक्षा के लिए पशुओं द्वारा होने वाली इस समस्या से निपटने के लिए कहा गया है।

Pending Power Projects

48. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to streamline the procedures for speedy clearance of all projects pending in the Ministry of Power and to tone up the infrastructure as a whole;

(b) what are the power projects pending for clearance of the Central Government during 1995-96 and 1996-97 in the country, project-wislvState-wise: and

(c) what is the gap between demand and supply position in Rajasthan and Orissa and by when the total power demand is likely to be met?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) The Government has issued the directive enhancing the limit of capital expenditure of the schemes requiring concurrence of the Central Electricity Authority from Rs. 100 crores to Rs. 400 crores in case of generating station schemes put up by Generating Company which was selected through a process of competitive bidding by the competent Government. CEA has introduced two stage clearance viz., in principle clearance followed by TEC to enable the promoters in tying up various inputs without having to wait for the detailed TEC. The number of clearances required to be obtained for the purpose of appraisal of the private power projects by CEA has been substantially reduced.

(b) The details of power projects, which have been received in the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) for accord of techno-economic clearance during 1995-96 and 1996-97 are given in the Statement (See below).

(c) The gap between demand and supply position in Rajasthan and Orissa is 81 MUs and 44 MUs respectively during the period April-May, 1996. Planning for power generation is a continuing exercise. For the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997—2002), as per the preliminary studies carried out by the Government, the capacity addition programme has been assessed as 56783 MW subject to be availability of essential inputs including funds. It has been estimated that during the terminal year of Ninth Plan, the country would be able to meet the energy requirement , if the capacity addition of 56783 MW is achieved.